



2022

QUARTER 4 IMPACT REPORT

VisionTrust 

They are worth more. A lot more.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

God's abounding love manifested in countless ways during the final months of 2022. VisionTrust Dominicana Country Director, Mariluz, shared:

“In the Dominican Republic, we have been able to impact the lives of almost 2,000 children with the programs we are developing. That amazes me because when we think we don't have much, the Lord multiplies the fish and the bread.”

Thrive in Joy's short-term mission team visit was a true highlight of the season for our students in the community of Herrera. At the San Miguel school, the children played interactive games to learn their vowels and syllables in their new reading corner. Preschool story time is awakening a love for reading for our youngest students — their enthusiasm for literacy is contagious!

We praise God for those providing emotional, spiritual, academic, and behavioral support to our students. The two Christian psychologists serving at the Tia Tatiana School are affording invaluable support and guidance to our students. Teenagers in our ministry grapple with their parents' struggle to openly demonstrate love and affection in their homes. Our staff have helped facilitate various gatherings to help foster stronger bonds between parents and their children, as well as between our staff and the local community.

Christmas celebrations at each program site were a beautiful reminder of Christ's boundless love and his steadfast presence and provision. The children and staff enjoyed delicious food, small gifts, and time together reflecting on the greatest gift of all — Jesus.



GUATEMALA

During the final quarter of 2022, our VisionTrust Guatemala ministry celebrated a long-awaited milestone — their first high school graduation. VisionTrust Guatemala Country Director, Rut shared:

“To actually get to live the moment we always dreamed of was one of the sweetest and tearful moments we have lived in ministry. Graduation was the biggest testimony to God’s grace and mercy for His children, this has been a testament to the communities to see what children are capable of achieving and a first taste of everything great that can come after this.”

We commend the tireless efforts of the eight graduates — each is well-equipped for a promising future. Six students received full-ride scholarships to university, pursuing studies in law, education, business, and healthcare. The presence of stateside supporters and partners at the ceremonies, along with local parents, neighbors, teachers, and friends, was a poignant reminder of our interconnectedness and unity in Christ.

Another highlight this quarter was a hands-on learning session where students were able to explore the world of broadcasting and learn about the proper use of social networks. Irresponsible use of technology is a pervasive issue, especially for our teenagers, and we praise God for leaders that guide them towards wise and safe choices.

Our staff continue to find creative and dynamic ways to cultivate the faith of our students. In early December, thirty-one youth and ten staff members attended a Christian conference where they had the opportunity to worship, attend topical workshops, and grow in their faith. We praise God for the two students that made a commitment to follow Jesus because of this formative experience.



BRAZIL

Throughout the final months of 2022, our VisionTrust Brazil leaders have meditated on God's promises during trials. VisionTrust Brazil Country Director, Humberto, described their experience, stating:

“It was been difficult to make the ends meet financially, the workload has been quite heavy, political instability in the country among others. However, our joy, hope, and save haven are in the Lord. He has been faithful and never forsakes us.”

This past quarter, our students spent quality time with their peers and VisionTrust leaders playing soccer, judo, and chess. Extracurricular activities and special outings continue to create moments of connection and belonging, which are particularly strategic in caring for our adolescent students that face hardships such as verbal aggressiveness, discrimination, and bullying. Recently, one of our sixth graders suffered a mental health crisis because of bullying at her neighborhood school. When at our VisionTrust programs, the children and adolescents have a respite from the violence and heartbreaking dangers of urban poverty. Our leaders never cease to amaze us as they come alongside struggling children and families with tenderness, professionalism, and prayer.

In October, a visit to Jaboticabal Farm brought a welcome breath of fresh air. Smiles abounded in November during the “Leitura Para Todos” gathering where children received book donations. During December, the children and adolescents of Projeto Amar joyfully performed a Christmas Cantata in front of their parents, siblings, relatives, and friends. Thanks to the generosity of our VisionTrust supporters, each child received a special present and every family brought home a food basket. We praise God that the families could depend on our ministry for food staples to help provide meals over the holiday break.

This tangible expression of God's love is just one of the countless ways our VisionTrust ministry is shining light in the community of Goiania, Brazil.



PERU

Our VisionTrust Peru programs continue to provide a steady heartbeat of love amid tumultuous times. In December, political unrest resulted in violent strikes and protests in the city of Ayacucho where our ministry serves, resulting in twenty-six fatalities. Our staff ask for prayer for peace to return to their country and that the children and adolescents they serve will refrain from growing bitter or despondent.

Our Christmas parties were exceptionally meaningful this year — the special food shared, and the presents given were a simple, yet powerful reminder of God’s love in the midst of difficult moments.

Our students benefited from many different health initiatives this quarter. The adolescents participated in talks addressing the dangers of pornography, and in November, our staff led gatherings with parents to coach them on abuse prevention. Local firefighters visited our programs to help demonstrate first aid techniques, giving practical guidelines on how to act swiftly and effectively when an emergency occurs.

We continue to see God’s love blossoming in the hearts of the children we serve. Seven children — Angela, Jhony, Day, Marlon, Luz, Andersen, and Jhon — made a decision to follow Jesus this past quarter. Our children at the Casa Luz orphanage lovingly selected toys in good condition from their collection to donate to children that are in need in their community. Priscila, a teenager from the Ríos de Agua Viva Learning Center, visits churches in the countryside with her father and leads Bible lessons for the little children.

VisionTrust Peru Country Director, Ada, summed it up the past season perfectly:

“We end the year in gratitude for all that God has done, and although there have been many valleys of pain, God continues to be good and we hope that 2023 will be a year full of good news.”



SOUTH ASIA

The final three months of 2022 were full of affirmation of God's faithful and loving presence in our South Asian programs.

Our VisionTrust leaders held a large-scale Bible exam competition. Two-hundred and sixty-four students participated and twenty received top recognition in their age group. We praise God that two former students professed their faith in Jesus for the first time this quarter.

In the area of health, our leaders evaluated the growth status of the children and adjusted the menus based on the data they had collected. Our adolescent girls were provided sanitary napkins and met to share about their experiences during the pandemic lockdowns and receive encouragement to stay strong in their physical and mental health.

As the children and staff closed out 2022, they gathered to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. They enjoyed a delicious meal and special activities such as skits, dances, and songs. One of our 8-year-old girls in Country 2, Anaya,* shared this reflection after attending her VisionTrust Christmas party:

“My mother works as sweeper and my father is addicted to alcohol and doesn't work [...] My school bag got torn out completely and it was very difficult to carry my books to school. I pleaded with my mother to buy me a school bag, but she refused because she didn't have the money to buy for me. I kept praying to God to fulfill my needs and I was extremely thrilled to receive a brand-new school bag and notebooks [at the Christmas party.] I thank God for everything he has done.”

*Name changed for security and privacy reasons



SOUTHEAST ASIA

There were many moments of God's love shining bright during the final quarter of 2022 in our Southeast Asian programs.

Eighty-two children and nine teachers participated in a "Youth Development Training," a five-lesson program that included Bible study and discussions on important topics such as putting God first in your life, baptism, emotional wellbeing, and health. We celebrate the decision of seventeen students who put their faith in Jesus for the first time during this past season.

In October, our students celebrated International Handwashing Day by creating original artwork to promote proper handwashing. Seventy students submitted their drawings in a friendly competition and five received special recognition. During the winter months, our staff has ensured our students have warm clothing. They continue to guide the children towards healthy habits by providing support with personal hygiene, oral hygiene, and nutrition.

Ongoing challenges in the communities where our children live are putting immense strain on families. Despite political and economic instability, our children are attending school and continuing their education. Our leaders guide the children through regular activities that reinforce and expand their skills in reading and math. Extracurricular activities such as music lessons and sports continue to bring moments of joy and connection amongst our students.

During the month of December, special gatherings with Christmas worship, Bible quiz games, and gifts reminded our children and adolescents of the great gift of Jesus' love. One of our faithful leaders shared her reflection on this season, declaring:

"By the grace of God, we passed this quarter's many difficulties well. At this time, the children and teachers are a little stressed — but they are safe because of God."



LIBERIA

“God has been good to the Liberia program as our schools are seeing improvements in academics and spiritual development.”

These are the words that our VisionTrust Liberia Country Director, Stephen, shared upon reflecting on 2022. Indeed, we have seen incredible strides forward in our three VisionTrust Liberia schools.

Thanks to the generosity of VisionTrust supporters, we were able to provide strategic resources and books for our students to improve their reading and language arts skills. The high cost of food is a formidable challenge for the families we serve. Our leaders are working hard to ensure our students can depend on healthy meals. They also are actively addressing water challenges in the communities where we serve. Thirty-six water filters and stands have been purchased for our VisionTrust schools, and we are actively working with local water experts to assess the safety and reliability of the existing wells. Our leaders continue to coach students on how to prevent malaria, as this illness is common and can lead to students missing school and getting behind in their academics.

Seven students —Mathaline, Grace, Jartu, Marconee, Marie, Annie, and Godgift — made a first-time decision to follow Jesus this past quarter. We also celebrate our students who have demonstrated notable growth in their spiritual lives. Theresa is a passionate worship leader and leads devotionals at her VisionTrust school. Trokon avidly prays, often volunteering to lead prayer time in class. Philip loves reading the Bible at church and serves faithfully in Sunday School. Our students find ways to reach out to share God’s love in their local community, such as bringing firewood to families that have suffered the loss of a loved one. Each student enjoyed the Christmas parties held mid-December, remembering with great joy the gift of Christ’s love that has been poured out onto their lives.



TANZANIA

During the final quarter of 2022, our Tanzanian students experienced God's love and grace in many ways. With immense joy, we celebrate that every 4th grader and every 7th grader at the VisionTrust Morogoro Baptist Primary School successfully passed their national academic examinations and will continue to the next grade level. We are thrilled for our 7th graders to start secondary school and look forward to continuing to mentor and support them through our Saturday program specially designed for adolescent students.

In the area of spiritual development, we praise God that six students —Amani, Jemes, Iddi, Samira, Witnes, and Lucy — all made a first-time commitment to follow Jesus. Many of our students have Muslim relatives and neighbors, and the connections and relationships they have present a wonderful opportunity for opening doors to sharing the love of Jesus. Our VisionTrust staff faithfully meet in small groups with the children to pray together, encouraging regular times of connecting with God.

Access to consistent, nourishing meals continues to be a formidable challenge for the families we serve in the community of Morogoro. The costs of food, cooking oil, and fuel continue to be high, and parents are struggling to provide food at home. Now more than ever, the children depend on the meals at their VisionTrust program to sustain their health. We are praying for God's miraculous provision, as our program funds for food are also stretched thin with increased prices.

Our VisionTrust Tanzania Country Director, Peter, shared this reflection on what families are facing:

“We are praying for parents and guardians during this time to access services and to help children at home to meet the basic needs so that they can grow spiritually, physically, and mentally for the aims of glorifying God. It's our hope that 2023 is a blessing year.”



ZIMBABWE

“We want to thank God for the year 2022 that has come to a close. The restrictions that came as a result of COVID-19 have been lifted and now we can do our business as usual. Our heavenly Father has been faithful and merciful to us in that we didn’t lose any of our staff and children to the pandemic. Now is the time to hit the ground running as we enter into the new season of 2023”

These words from VisionTrust Zimbabwe Country Director, Davison, perfectly capture the spirit and heart of our VisionTrust Zimbabwe ministry.

During the final quarter of 2022, our VisionTrust Zimbabwe ministry had many milestones to celebrate. Davison was able to take a long-awaited trip to the United States to connect with supporters and share updates on how God’s light is shining through the three VisionTrust Learning Centers. The discipleship and mentoring programs are touching the lives of the children in profound ways. Two students — Nigel and Mike — decided to put their faith in Jesus this past quarter. We praise God for the children that are embracing their passions and talents to serve God. Mammie serves the elderly, Ruvarashe preaches, and Clara leads praise and worship.

For many years, our VisionTrust Zimbabwe leaders have been planning to build a Learning Center facility at each village where our programs are hosted. By God’s grace, construction has begun on the Mavende Learning Center. Along with the facility, our Zimbabwean staff are also working on planting a farm garden, which will provide nutritious produce for the children as well as opportunities to have creative Bible lessons on agricultural themes and illustrations shared throughout the scriptures.



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

VisionTrust Centrafrique Country Director, Josué, shared this praise as the year ended:

“Glory to God!!! In 2022, there were a total of eleven VisionTrust Centrafrique children who accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior and witnessed Him through baptism. There were a total of sixteen students who committed themselves to serve the Lord in the various groups of their local church in order to grow spiritually.”

We praise God that our students were set up for academic success through assistance with tuition, uniforms, and school supplies. In October and November, our staff had various meetings with caregivers of specific students that are struggling to provide guidance and support. The spiritual growth and leadership in the lives of the children in our ministry is inspirational. Their example to the younger children in the ministry and their caregivers is a great testimony to the transformational love of God.

Our health contract with the local clinic continues to be a vital resource as our children are at high risk to contract diseases like malaria and parasites, as well as students that need ongoing support due to chronic illness. The access to consistent and quality healthcare through this partnership is one of the many blessings made possible by the generosity of our faithful supporters and donors.

December was a joyful season in our programs as the staff and students gathered to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The festivities included singing, sharing Bible verses, performing skits, enjoying special food, and distributing presents. It was a beautiful affirmation of God’s love. On December 21st, twenty-one of our VisionTrust Centrafrique leaders were able to gather as a staff for prayer, reflection, and encouragement as they prepared for the coming year.



MALAWI

The loving presence of our VisionTrust Malawi leaders is making a significant impact in the lives of the children and families we serve.

Visiting the homes of the children in our ministry is one of the many ways our staff build positive rapport with the families of Katsekera. This quarter, our staff shared that one of the students, Simon, has shown incredible growth of character through participating in our Learning Center program. Simon's family grapples with poverty, and his father abandoned the family when Simon was only two years old. When he started attending the local VisionTrust Learning Center, Simon was a troublesome child prone to acting violently towards other children. Through the mentorship of our local staff, Simon has started to exhibit kindness and patience towards his peers.

In the area of health, we praise God that our staff and children have remained healthy, despite a cholera outbreak in the country of Malawi. Our VisionTrust team is grateful for a local clinic that provides good, timely care to our children and access to preventative care such as deworming medication.

As the children and staff closed out 2022, they gathered to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Our leaders closed the year with sincere gratitude for all the ways — big and small — that God's love strengthened, inspired, and equipped the children and adolescents they serve.





THANK YOU
for believing these children are worth more.



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